# Pain Management Administrative Guideline

### **History**

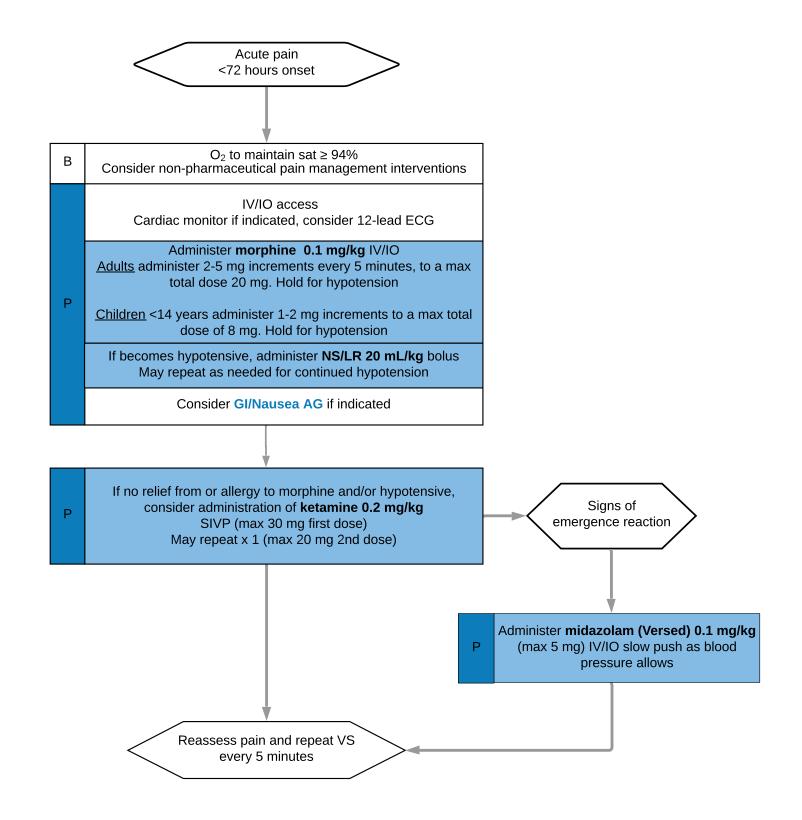
- · Past medical history
- Pertinent medication history
  - Home pain medications
- Pain source
- Mechanism of injury (if known)

## Signs and Symptoms

- Pain level utilize the age appropriate pain scale
- Pain exacerbation factors (i.e. movement, palpation, position, etc.)

### Differential

- Chronic pain
- Trauma



# Pain Management Administrative Guideline

### **Education/Pearls**

Pain is a consequence of a multitude of medical conditions from trauma to infections to neurological syndromes, and should be assessed as part of general patient care in all ages. Consider all patients as candidates for management of acute pain regardless of transport times. Pain should be assessed prior to and after all pain-relieving interventions. In the setting of analgesic administration, patients require monitoring of continuous pulse oximetry and vital signs, and may require supplemental oxygen to maintain O<sub>2</sub> sats >94%.

- Use an age appropriate pain scale to assess pain
  - Numerical scale: 0 to 10, zero as no pain and 10 as the worst pain possible
  - Age <4 years: consider using an observational scale (i.e. FLACC face, legs, activity, cry consolability)</li>
  - Age 4-12 years: Consider using a self-report scale (i.e. Faces Pain Scale or Wong-Baker Faces)
  - Age > 12 years: Consider using a self-report numerical scale
- Non-pharmaceutical pain management techniques:
  - Place patient in position of comfort for patient while still adhering to safe transport recommendations
  - Supporting affected extremity as indicated
  - Applying ice packs and/or splints
  - Verbal reassurance/distraction
- Zofran should not be utilized unless patient verbalizes complaints of nausea.
  - If patient is noted to have prolonged QT interval, contact medical direction.
- <u>Ketamine:</u> A dissociative medication, this agent relieves pain by changing the patient's mental state and inducing delirium with possible hallucinations. It may cause vasoconstriction, hypertension, and an emergence reaction, which occurs when a patient's dissociation becomes agitating or unpleasant for the patient.
  - Ketamine should not be used as treatment for chest pain, as vasoconstriction may be harmful.
  - Push this medication via slow IV push rapid administration can cause apneic episodes
  - If the patient becomes excessively agitated and impedes safe transport, consider administration of midazolam and/or contact medical direction for further orders.

Caution with administration of morphine and/or midazolam in trauma patients who have concern for TBI, due to risk of hypotension.

Categories	Scoring		
	0	1	2
Face	No particular expression or smile.	Occasional grimace or frown, withdrawn, disinterested	Frequent to constant frown, quivering chin, clenched jaw
Legs	Normal position or relaxed	Uneasy, restless, tense	Kicking or legs drawn up
Activity	Lying quietly, normal position, moves easily	Squirming, shifting back and forth, tense	Arched, rigid, or jerking
Cry	No cry (awake or asleep)	Moans or whimpers; occasional complaint	Crying steadily, screams or sobs, frequent complaints
Consolability	Content, relaxed	Reassured by occasional touching, hugging, or being talked to; distractable	Difficult to console or comfort

Note: Each of the five categories Face (F), Legs (L), Activity (A), Cry (C), and Consolability (C) is scored from 0-2, which results in a total score between 0 and 10 From Merkel, Vgepel-Levis, Shayevitz, & Malviya (1597). The FLACC, A behavioral scale for scoring postogerative pain in young children. Pediatric Nursing, 23 (3) 293-297.

# Wong-Baker FACES® Pain Rating Scale O 2 4 6 8 10 No Hurts Hurts Hurts Hurts Hurts Hurts Hurts Hurts Even More Whole Lot Worst